



Construction Ahead!

Work continuing on paving, walls, ramps, landscaping

Construction remains underway on the new truck-climbing lane on Interstate 10 between Redlands and Yucaipa. A very rainy season has caused ongoing delays to the project, which now is expected to be completed by the end of May.

"We are eagerly awaiting the completion of this project, which should go a long way toward improving traffic flow in our east valley," said Darren Kettle, SANBAG's Director of Freeway Construction.

Paving along the shoulder between Wabash Avenue and Yucaipa Boulevard is in progress. Crews have been pouring the lean concrete base, which is the first layer of pavement, and plan to start pouring the top concrete layer in early April. Once the top concrete layer is completed, workers will grind, saw-cut, seal the pavement joints and stripe the new lanes.

Retaining walls near the west end of Outer Highway 10 and retaining walls under the bridges at Wabash Avenue and Yucaipa Boulevard are complete.

Sprinkler systems for landscaping near the newly-built sound walls were installed last month. Crews will be installing sprinklers for landscaping near the Yucaipa Boulevard interchange. Once this is complete, vines will be planted at the base of the sound walls, and plants and ground cover will be planted near the Yucaipa Boulevard ramps.

Remaining work includes the continued realignment of eastbound ramps at Ford, Wabash and Yucaipa Boulevard. Crews also will be replacing pavement in selected locations in the eastbound slow lane. In addition, new fencing will be installed, barrier rail will be removed and lanes will be re-striped.

The last stage of the project involves review and acceptance by Caltrans. Upon acceptance of the project, Caltrans will resume maintenance of the freeway.



Brutoco Construction crews work on a retaining wall next to new pavement east of Wabash Avenue in Redlands.

I-10 project scrapbook



Pictured, from top: New pavement along the Yucaipa Boulevard ramp; paving equipment west of Outer Highway; new retaining wall near Outer Highway.

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We're listening ...

For questions about this project, please call SANBAG's I-10 helpline at 889-8611 x102. Callers may



leave a message to ask about current or upcoming work. Do not use the helpline to report emergencies; instead, call 911.

Freeway Service Patrol program to expand this fall

San Bernardino County will receive funding for Freeway Service Patrols on I-10, I-15, I-215 and Route 60, thanks to Assembly Bill 2498.

The funding will allow free roving tow service to be implemented along sections of these freeways in the San Bernardino Valley, possibly by this fall.

The service likely will be phased in over time, with two beats operating first. SANBAG, Caltrans and the CHP will be analyzing which freeway beats should be included in the first round of funding.

Like the FSP now in place in the I-10 construction zone, the new service would be offered during peak morning and afternoon commute hours, Monday through Friday.

I-10 widening project moves forward

San Bernardino Associated Governments received environmental clearance from the Federal Highway Administration February 1 for the widening of Interstate 10 through Redlands. This approval is a major hurdle in clearing the project for construction.

The project will involve widening the freeway both eastbound and westbound for a 2.5-mile stretch between Orange Street and Ford Street. Work is expected to take approximately two years and cost close to \$35 million.

Caltrans has approved the project plans and specifications, the engineer's cost estimate and the bid process, and this package was forwarded for federal approval on March 23. This federal approval is expected to be granted this spring, paving the way for construction bids.

Current plans call for SANBAG to begin advertising for bids July 5 - August 17. If this schedule remains, a construction contractor would be presented to the agency's Board of Directors for approval on September 7, and work would start in October.

Freeway Service Patrol assists top 5,000

The Freeway Service Patrol reached a milestone this winter, with more than 5,000 motorists assisted since the free roving tow truck service began in January 2004.

Armada Towing, under contract to SANBAG and under CHP jurisdiction, helps stranded drivers during weekday peak commute hours, 5 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. The service quickly removes stuck trucks and cars, helping to prevent further traffic delays along the freeway.

Of the 5,077 offers to help, 1,556 (31%) of the motorists declined the service, due to help already being on the way or not needed. The remaining 3,521 travelers were aided with:

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| ■ 923 mechanical breakdowns | ■ 259 abandoned vehicles |
| ■ 865 flat tires | ■ 180 instances of debris in the road |
| ■ 472 overheated vehicles | ■ 128 electrical problems |
| ■ 360 empty gas tanks | ■ 8 other problems |
| ■ 326 accidents | |

The FSP is funded through a grant by the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee, with a contribution by Measure I, the half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County.



Trucks are marked with the FSP logo below the Armada Towing emblem on both doors (see logo at left). Tow truck drivers wear vests printed with the FSP logo and carry identification. Drivers do not accept payment or tips.

For more FSP information, call the helpline at 889-8611 x102 or email fsp@sanbag.ca.gov.